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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/674,814	10/01/2003	Ichiro Kamimura	67336-014	8795

7590

10/04/2006

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY  
600 13th Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER
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GRAVINI, STEPHEN MICHAEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3749

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

### **EXAMINER RESPONSE TO REPLY BRIEF**

Examiner's immediate supervisor has instructed examination such that claims must not rely on imported description/specification in an internal Office electronic mail messages dated August 8, 2006 and August 2, 2006 to the examiner. Claims must contain all specification discussion as clarified by examiner's supervisor. Furthermore, language such as "in an annular shape" or "for circulating" is to be interpreted as desired result and ordered examination such that the invention should be claimed as means or step plus function format, based on an internal Office electronic mail message dated July 10, 2006. The rejections to follow are based on mandated polices by examiner's immediate supervisor, with contact information at the end of this action.

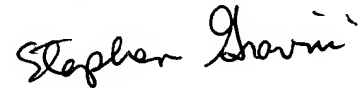
The reply brief filed August 9, 2006 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen Gravini whose telephone number is 571 272 4875. The examiner can normally be reached on normal weekday business hours (east coast time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ehud Gartenberg can be reached on 571 272 4828. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SMG  
September 28, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Shavin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.